

May 14, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

Food and Drug Administration

5630 Fishers Lane Room 10615711 '99 MAY 19 P2:26
Rockville MD 20852

re: Docket #98N-1038 "Irradiation in the production processing and handling of food"

There definitely needs to be prominent labeling on all foods, including fruits and vegetables, that include terms "irradiation" or "irradiated" and the use of the radura symbol (the international symbol that indicates radiation treatment) should any food be so treated.

Any proposed alternative terms would be deceptive and misleading and should not be used. Why would you choose words other than a straight-forward term of truth? A consumer needs to know when foods are altered! Are you afraid to protect consumers?

Please do not remove the irradiation labels, ever. That information is more important to consumers than some of the other required labeling. What is wrong with having choices when purchasing the foods we eat? Consumers need to know: health is vital...

I would appreciate your answers to my questions. And, please notify me of your final decisions made concerning Docket #98N-1038. Thank you for your kind consideration...

Sincerely,

Beverly A. Scherling

Beverly A. Scherling
PO Box 4337

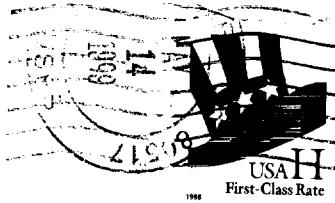
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